



**Public Advisory Group Minutes  
March 22, 2016  
Utah Lake State Park  
10:00 AM**

**Members Present:**

Eric Ellis, Utah Lake Commission  
Luke Allen, Utah Lake Commission  
Carol Walters, Utah Valley Earth Forum  
Mel Smith, Utah Water Ski Club,  
Kara Butterfield, The Nature Conservancy  
Todd Frye, Bonneville Sailing  
Louise Fry, Bonneville Sailing  
Garrick Hall, Farm Bureau

1       **1. Welcome and Introductions:** The meeting started at 10:00 AM. The members of the Public  
2       Advisory Group introduced themselves.

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4       **2. Report on Lake – Eric Ellis:**

5           a. **State Appropriation/RFP:** \*The audio recorder wasn't turned on during this section\*  
6           Eric Ellis gave a brief update about projects that were being funded from a State  
7           Appropriation. There will be marina improvements at the American Fork and Saratoga  
8           Springs Marinas. Spanish Fork will be doing a trail alignment study. The Utah Lake  
9           Commission will be hiring a consultant to do a site analysis and site plan for a nature  
10          center.

11          b. **Discuss Project Recommendations:** \*Audio recorder was now turned on\*

12           i. **Lincoln Beach:** The Wounded Warrior program is interested in creating a  
13           "Heroes Park" at Lincoln Beach that would honor members of the military, law  
14           enforcement, etc. There will be large, flat-bottomed boats that will take people  
15           on tours/boat rides around the lake.

16           ii. **Sandy Beach:** Improve the road and parking lot. Adding restrooms and a gate at  
17           the start of the beach. It should decrease the party atmosphere and create a  
18           better environment with everyone. The Nature Conservancy will be transferring  
19           land in the area over to the state for the project. Conservation Corps crews will  
20           be clearing out some of the invasive plants in the area.

21           iii. **Utah Lake State Park Improvements and Dredging:** A master plan was created  
22           for a renovation of the state park. They're doing an economic impact study right

now. It will be a phased project, meaning that certain portions of the project will be done before others. The dredging is in RFP process right now. There is money ready to be spent on the project. It is unsure if a coffer dam will be the best option or not. Some contractors have presented alternative ideas.

- iv. **Phragmites Removal:** Provo Bay and Powell Slough will be the main areas for Phragmites treatment in 2016. There were some questions about the process for Phragmites removal. Eric explained that many areas are treated by hand and that they don't treat areas without landowner permission. The Utah Lake Commission is working with the county weed abatement crews and the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to identify ways to allow private land owners to treat Phragmites and other invasives.. The Commission is also working with a private developer in Vineyard to clear Phragmites and other invasive plants in that area to improve beach access. There is a historic canal in Saratoga Springs that will be cleared of invasive species soon. They plan on using special equipment to get that job done.

A 5 minute video about Phragmites removal was shown at the meeting. This video is now available on the Utah Lake Commission YouTube Channel.

- v. **Carp Removal:** Carp Removal is moving ahead. They have removed 21 million pounds over the last 6 years. There is enough funding to continue the project through 2018. Over the past 3 years there has been 0 recruitment, meaning that the Carp have been unable to successfully reproduce.
- vi. **Provo River Delta Restoration Project:** A federal appraisal of the property is underway. Everything else is in place. Part of the river will be diverted to the north and turned into a delta. This will provide better spawning habitat for the June sucker. This will be a good fishery with increased recreational opportunities in the area. It won't significantly affect recreation along the end of the existing Provo River.
- vii. **Spring and Fall Field Trips:** Utah Lake Commission will be sponsoring field trips for 4<sup>th</sup> graders on April 27 and 28 as well as May 3 and 4. Overall, there will be about 1200 students who will visit the lake over the course of those four days to learn and participate in hands-on activities.

### 3. **Communication Strategy – Luke Allen:**

- a. **Adopt-a-Shoreline Program:** The Adopt-A-Shoreline program will be implemented for the first time this spring. Three organizations have signed up so far: LDS Earth Stewardship, Bowfishing Girls Club, and the Saratoga Springs Home Owners Association.
- b. **2016 Photo Contest:** Details are available on [utahlake.gov](http://utahlake.gov). There are three categories. The deadline is May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- c. **Utah Lake Festival:** The Utah Lake Festival will be on June 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a planning meeting with several participating organizations soon.
- d. **Utah Valley CBB:** The Convention and Visitors Bureau is sending representatives to a nationwide conference in the Midwest. The representative from Utah County is going to promote Utah Lake to the relevant organizations at this conference. (Water skiing organizations, fishing organizations, etc.)

1           e. **UCMA Meetings:** Eric Ellis meets with the local city managers monthly to figure out the  
2           implementation of some projects. He is able to get feedback on ideas before they are  
3           presented to elected leaders.  
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5       **4. Round Table:**

6       Carol Walters asked for an update on the Model Ordinance that was discussed a few years ago.  
7       American Fork, Vineyard, and Saratoga Springs have adopted a version. The Commission met  
8       with Springville about the ordinance recently. Carol voiced her support for the shoreline  
9       ordinance.  
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11       Todd Fry asked if it was possible to include the Utah Lake Commission Technical Committee and  
12       other lake users in the dredging meetings. The purpose would be that those groups would help  
13       ensure that the dredging is done right. Eric Ellis said that it would be fine and they will keep  
14       those groups updated about future meetings.  
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16       Kara Butterfield let the group know about the potential funding resources that The Nature  
17       Conservancy has and she encouraged the commission to reach out if they have funding needs  
18       for projects.  
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20       Carol Walters mentioned that there may be some people who are concerned with the  
21       environmental impacts of Phragmites treatment. Eric Ellis said that he may have some research  
22       that Carol can compare to the research that she already has. The research shows that there  
23       aren't any serious or significant impacts.  
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25       Todd Fry announced that the Bonneville School of Sailing has created a non-profit called New  
26       Horizons. It provides opportunities for kids to learn STEM curriculum and learn how to make  
27       simple boats.  
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29       **5. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.